

10.00 am Sunday Service



31 December 2023

Welcome

Prayer

I will sing a new hymn to my God:
O Lord you are great and marvellous.
You are marvellous in your strength, invincible.
Let the whole creation serve you:
For you spoke and all things came to be;
You sent out your Spirit and it formed them:
No one can resist your voice.
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths:
Rocks melt like wax at your presence;
But to those who revere you:
You will show mercy.

Judith 16:13-15

Song: Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive its king.
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love

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Song: The Servant King

From heav'n You came helpless babe
Enter'd our world Your glory veil'd

Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

**This is our God the Servant King, He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King**

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load He chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
Yet not my will but Yours He said

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

CCLI Song # 78897 Graham Kendrick
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Song: Happy Happy Day

**Happy happy day, sing for joy at Christmas
Fill the air with gladness, all the earth, all the earth
To us a Son is given, he leaves His throne in heaven
God with us oh happy, happy day**

Christ the Lord the light of men
Born to die and rise again
Break the curse of death
And save us from our sin

Let angels sing and do not fear
Christ the servant King is here
Bringing peace to all
On whom God's favour rests

Sinner come and find release
In the incarnate Prince of Peace
Let the wonder of His glory
Fill Your heart

Emmanuel oh happy, happy, God with us oh happy, happy day

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Bible Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Message

Offering Song: Great is your faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

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Offering Prayer

The Confession

Heavenly Father,
You have loved us with an everlasting love,
But we have broken your holy laws
And have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

God is slow to anger and full of compassion,
Forgiving all who humbly repent
And trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord
God therefore forgives you in Christ Jesus,
In whom there is no condemnation. **Amen.**

Prayers for the Church and our World

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, And deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
Are yours now and forever. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power
for you created all things, making us in your own image.
We praise you for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by his death on the cross and rising to new life
offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.
Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying,
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now, gracious God, we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine,
and pray that we who receive them,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
according to our Saviour's word,
in remembrance of his suffering and death,
may share his body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread,
and when he had given you thanks he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you
and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

We eat this bread and drink this cup

to proclaim the death of the Lord.

We do this until he returns.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Father, as we recall his saving death
and glorious resurrection, may we who share these gifts
be renewed by your Holy Spirit and united in the body of your Son.
Bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom,
there to feast at your table and join in your eternal praise:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive praise and honcur
and glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Sending out of God's People

Gracious God, we thank you that in this sacrament
you assure us of your goodness and love.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
and help us to grow in love and obedience
that we may serve you in the world
and finally be brought to that table
where all your saints feast with you for ever.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

Song: 10000 Reasons

**Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name**

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

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The Blessing